

Alta California Regional Center
Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, October 27, 2016
Minutes

Present: Jacqueline Armstrong, Cindy Benson (via phone), Janet Brandon, Nasim Hedayati, Romilda Jones, Dan Lake, Amy Lampe, Rosa Meza-Villaseñor, Brendan Peacock, Anwar Safvi, Steven Sanchez (via phone), Austin Taylor, Rita Walker

Staff: Phil Bonnet, Lori Banales, Alfonso Carmona, Camelia Houston, Jason Lindo, David Lopez, Peter Tiedemann, Lisa West

Facilitators: Amy Fulk

Visitors: Kathy Brian, Raymond Hampson, Elizabeth Mard, Retha Seabron, Cheryl Worthley, also Professors Aoki, Hashimoto and Iimura and their interpreter, Mr. Keiichi

1. **Call to Order** - The Board of Directors met at 4:03 p.m. on Thursday, October 27, 2016, at ACRC's main office in Sacramento.
2. **Introductions – Reading of ACRC's Mission & Vision Statements** - All present introduced themselves. Ms. Armstrong read aloud ACRC's Mission and Vision statements.
3. **Consent Agenda – By consensus, the following consent agenda items were approved: a) regular session Board meeting minutes of September 22, 2016; and b) accept Board Development, CAC, Executive and PAC reports.**
4. **New Business**
 - ◆ *Community Comments*
 - Mr. Hampson, parent and Board member of the ARC of California, shared his concern for the shortage of out-of-home respite care providers in ACRC's catchment area.

◆ *Executive Committee*

Issue 1: ACRC's Mission and Vision Statements

Discussion and Action: At the September Board Retreat, the Board discussed removing "intellectual and/or" from ACRC's Mission and Vision statements.

M/S/C (Janet Brandon) **To approve the changes to ACRC's Mission and Vision statements as presented.** (13 in favor)

Issue 2: 2017 Performance Contract

Discussion and Action: Mr. Bonnet shared that the 2017 Performance Contract was brought before several committees this month. Last year, ACRC added a locally developed policy performance measure that increases awareness of cultural diversity and improves services for all served by ACRC using POS data relating to age, race, language, and disability, to measure outcomes.

M/S/C (Amy Lampe) **To approve the 2017 Performance Contract as presented.** (13 in favor)

◆ *Finance Committee*

Issue: Monthly Financial Report

Discussion and Action: Mr. Safvi shared that the Finance Committee did not meet this month. Mr. Tiedemann distributed the September 30, 2016 financial report which reflects three months of expenditures for the current fiscal year (FY). ACRC has expended 22.3% of Purchase of Services (POS) and 24.5% of Operations (OPS).

As mentioned at the last meeting, ACRC received our first amendment from the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) on August 25th. We will continue to receive additional amendments throughout the year. The annual projections have not yet been completed, but Mr. Tiedemann believes that ACRC will have adequate funding this FY.

- **The monthly finance report was accepted as submitted.**

◆ *Committee Updates*

- Board Development Committee (BDC)
 - Mr. Lake shared that the BDC met on October 11th.
 - He thanked everyone for attending the Board Retreat in Grass Valley on September 22nd.
 - The next Board training is scheduled for Thursday, May 25th. If you have any suggested training topics, please contact him.
 - The group reviewed the change to ACRC's Mission and Vision statements.
 - Committee members discussed opportunities for ongoing trainings.
 - The new Executive Director evaluation is still being drafted.
 - Workgroup updates were provided.

- Client Advisory Committee (CAC)
 - Mr. Taylor shared that the CAC met on October 11th.
 - *Lending Works, Inc.* gave a presentation to the group. It was a well thought-out presentation; six people gave the presentation and worked well together.
 - The group discussed the final preparations for our **LA50** celebration.
 - As usual, committee members gave updates on the groups that they are a part of.
 - Provider Advisory Committee (PAC)
 - Ms. Brandon shared that the PAC met on October 13th.
 - The group suggested having ACRC gather data regarding the four items that have been “under development” for years on the annual Performance Contract, so that we can track trends on a yearly basis.
 - With the changes that are coming in the Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) setting rules, the committee would like the Board to suggest having the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) take legislative action on the critical topic of supporting individuals with challenging behaviors, including appropriate staff wages, benefits and training.
 - If Proposition 55 does not pass, there will be a huge financial hole (\$4 billion), which could impact our statewide service system.
- ◆ *President’s Report/ARCA Report*
- Mr. Peacock shared that ACRC’s **LA50** celebration was wonderful!
 - He attended the ARCA Board meeting on Friday, October 21st, at San Gabriel/Pomona Regional Center.
 - The Board delegate’s dinner/meeting is held the night before the Board meeting. They are inviting an Executive Director to attend these meetings, and in turn, a Board delegate will be attending the Directors Meeting in order to share information. Recent discussion are about sharing best practices between regional centers.
 - Jim Burton, the Executive Director of the Regional Center of the East Bay (RCEB) spoke about a multitude of topics.
 - The group discussed making their conference calls throughout the year more compact in nature.
 - They discussed ICF SPAs and regional center’s role in this process.
 - Mr. Tiedemann will discuss this further at the next Finance Committee meeting. ACRC is not

experiencing any issues with this process, while other regional centers are having a difficult time collecting the funds back from the ICFs.

- Mr. Peacock requested that Ms. West forward to all Board members some information that was requested at the delegates' dinner about the history of our service system. She sent it out earlier today.
 - During the Board meeting, they reviewed ARCA's Strategic Plan. The plan's goals include: inclusive communities, funding and sustainability, essentials of the Lanterman Act, and regional center system efficacy.
 - The group received a legislative update from Rick Rollens.
 - ARCA is currently partnering with the Children's Hospital of Los Angeles in a study of equity issues.
 - Mr. Peacock shared that the Board received an email from our website asking that we make the "Contact the Board" option more prominent on the agency's website.
 - As we have done in the past, ACRC's Board of Directors will be adopting a family for the holiday season. If you wish to make a monetary donation to this wonderful tradition, please bring it to the next Board meeting scheduled for November 17th.
- ◆ *Executive Director's Report*
- ACRC's "Dashboard Indicators for the Quarter Ending September 30, 2016" was distributed for review.
 - It's important to note that our agency now serves 21,999 clients; an increase of 1,309 clients in the last year.
 - Even with this growth, caseload ratios are decreasing slightly.
 - Under our Community Placement Plan (CPP), the number of our clients who reside in developmental centers (DCs) has only gone down by one due to the fact that more clients are wanting to be served by ACRC. Parents and families are seeing what services staff are developing and they want their loved ones to have options.
 - We had between 500 to 600 individuals participate in ACRC's **LA50** celebration on Saturday, October 15th. Mr. Bonnet expressed appreciation to everyone for their support with this event.
 - Mr. Tiedemann provided a brief overview of the Bureau of State Audit's report on rates and oversight of in-home respite providers.
 - The new federal law, known as the ABLE Act, allows individuals with disabilities to have a tax-advantaged account that will allow them to save up to \$14,000 per year; up to \$100,000 in a life time, without losing vital public benefits such as Medicaid/Medi-Cal, SSI or SSDI.

- ACRC will be sponsoring a training for interested clients, families and staff to learn more about his new opportunity on Wednesday, November 16th, from 3 to 4:30 p.m.
 - On October 25th, DDS informed ACRC that we are eligible for \$155,497 in special funding to help promote equity in the expenditure of POS funding to agency clients. Mr. Bonnet shared that ACRC will be developing an orientation program for families who are new to our service system. We will also be purchasing simultaneous translation headphones. The department did not grant our request for \$240,000 to fund six additional bilingual service coordination staff. Further, ARCA had requested a significant amount of money in order to complete a comprehensive study to analyze the data and find the root causes of POS differences across the state; ARCA did not receive this funding. DDS has committee to search for alternative funding for a thorough analysis of the differences.
 - Tomorrow morning, ACRC will be hosting a meeting to discuss the closure of Sonoma Developmental Center (SDC). This institution is slated to close on December 31, 2018. There are approximately 350 individuals who reside there and, as mentioned earlier, ACRC is seeing an influx of individuals wanting to move into our catchment area so that they might be able to access the services that are being developed for this closure.
- ♦ *ARCA-CAC Report*
- Ms. Benson attended the ARCA-CAC meeting on Friday, October 14th.
 - The group talked about updating their Facebook page.
 - They discussed the ABX2 1 funding that recently came into our statewide system.
5. **Closed Session** – At 5:14 p.m. the Board adjourned to closed session in order to discuss legal issues.
6. **Announcement of Closed Meeting Discussion** - At 5:33 p.m. the Board reconvened in open session following a closed session in which legal issues were discussed.
7. **Adjournment**
The meeting adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

Lisa West
Executive Secretary

cc: Phil Bonnet